Exchange of maps between India and China

1010. SHRI KULDIP NAYYAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the maps have been exchanged between India and China regarding the border;

(b) if so, the outcome, so far; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to take an holistic approach to end the dispute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) India and China seek a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable settlement of the boundary question through peaceful consultations. The process of clarification of the Line of Actual Control (LAC) has started within existing mechanisms. Maps of the LAC in the Middle Sector have been exchanged. Discussions have commenced on clarification of the LAC in the Western Sector of the India-China boundary.

(c) Government of India is committed to the development of friendly and good neighbourly relations with China on the basis of the principles of Panchsheel, mutual sensitivity of each other's concerns and equality. We are moving ahead on various areas of bilateral cooperation while sustaining a continuous dialogue to address our differences.

Child labour in Andhra Pradesh

1011. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per 1991 census Andhra Pradesh had the highest number of working children mostly in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof and what is the position in this regard in the latest census; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to identify and rehabilitate child labour in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) and (b) The State with the highest child labour population in the country is Andhra Pradesh, which as per 1991 census had 16.61 million working children. The figures of the 2001 census have not yet been published.

(c) The Ministry of Labour has been implementing the scheme of National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs) for the benefit of children withdrawn from work. The State of Andhra Pradesh has been sanctioned NCLPs in 22 districts for the benefit of child labour through 1033 special schools/centres. Awareness Generation Activities are being taken up by the National Child Labour Project Society at the district level against this evil.

Besides the above, the State Government has, *inter-alia*, initiated action for sensitising the community, parents and employers on child labour, prioritisation of specific areas in each district where incidence of child labour is high for enforcement of child labour laws and provisions of various other acts, releasing the child labour from the work place and rehabilitating them through residential and non-residential bridge courses under DPEP/SSA.

ESI hospitals in Karnataka

1012. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ESI hospitals in Karnataka;

(b) whether there is any complaint about unsatisfactory service rendered by ESI hospitals in the State;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to improve patient care at ESI hospitals in Karnataka; and

(d) the number of new ESI hospitals proposed to be established in Karnataka during the year 2002-03?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) As on date, there are nine ESI hospitals in Karnataka.

(b) No, Sir. However, a few complaints regarding reimbursement, medical claims were received and these have been sent to Government of Karnataka for settlement.

(c) The ESI Corporation has sanctioned modern equipment worth Rs.194.37 lacs for upgradation of medical services under ESI Scheme in Karnataka.